

The Calling of Disciples    Mark 1:16-17

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## The Calling of Disciples Mark 1:16-20

In Miss Carolins Sunday School class, as I child, I remember the paper cut out images of Jesus and his Disciples. With their long flowing robes, their walking sticks and sandals I remember being taught that had no particular house, and just walked about from place to place learning of Jesus and doing good. I remember looking out the car window on the way home, looking for disciples walking along the highway. Looking for little groups of men clad in robes w/ staff in hand walking down the road to Trenton. I never saw any. Not a one. I soon began to think that there must be no disciples today, you just don't see them much around here. I later learned E.C. is called people.

I. **The Sight of these Disciples** - The destiny of the Lord Jesus at this point was to live, die, be raised from dead, and ascend to heaven. Ultimately he would be gone. Therefore his teaching must be entrusted to other men to be related to others; to live.

A. He Saw their Place - VS 16a. Sea of Galilee not the great halls of Jewish learning, in the palaces of the Kings, in halls of splendor, but to the sea shore. Down by the docks.

You have probably heard of great revival meetings where they boast of 10 saved, 3 rededicated and 4 called to preach. As if the only time young men are called to preach is in great meetings. Yet God corners men for his service. Down by the Sea you are molded

B. He saw their Position - These were met men of great stature, of great influence and power. They were common everyday people. I was listening to NPR, Smooty announcement came on: "If you want to reach our audience of wealth, highly educated influential listeners call office..." No not Jesus his ardent disciples come mostly from run of the mill places. Chor actors from every walk of life. Abe Lincoln "God must love

C. He saw the Parallels <sup>VS16</sup> There are also insightful parallels that can be drawn from what Jesus saw. Fishing like Soul-winning takes patience. Much waiting and differing attempts. Searching for good spots. Don Dillman <sup>"Equipping"</sup> gets a good fishing hole <sup>VS19</sup>. There was also mending and cleaning - Nets would rot if not properly cleaned. Oh how we must take care to be ourselves clean & strong vessels <sup>Discipleship</sup> meet for masters use. These are Parallels that don't always

II. The Saying To these Disciples <sup>VS17</sup>  
Here we have the utterance of Jesus to gain the attention of these soon to be disciples. What it must have been like to hear the audible voice of Jesus. Yet with no lesser utterances he calls to deeper devotion <sup>To Himself</sup>.

A. A Powerful Command - This word translates "Come Ye" is an imperative! A firm command. Let's be clear here. A call to salvation and a call to discipleship are one in the same. You don't grow into becoming a disciple upon being saved. Yet upon being saved a new born babe in Christ is just that, a baby and therefore a moment of realization, a moment of choice, a crisis.

Brueghel "Jesus did not say to them 'I have a physical system  
which I would like you to investigate' I have certain theories that I  
would like you to think over. I have no spiritual system I would like  
you to discuss with me".

**Abraham Lincoln - "God must love the common people, He made  
so many of them"**

Brueghel - "A man should never think so much of what he is as of  
what Jesus Christ can make him." just simply and more easily  
fall in love with Jesus and the will come to His image for  
His message.

Barclay "Jesus did not say to them 'I have a theological system which I would like you to investigate, I have certain theories that I would like you to think over, I have an ethical system I would like you to discuss with me."

Barclay – "A man should never think so much of what he is as of what Jesus Christ can make him" Just simply and more earnestly fall in love with Jesus and he will conform you into His image, for His usage.

of belief, a classing of a command to follow more whole heartedly & deeply the Lord Jesus. They had met Jesus prior, believed his teaching, but now came a deeper call.

B. A Pointed Command - after me, means follow behind me. in the sense of joining one's party or group. He was calling them to himself. Barclay No, but follows me. know me, learn of me, walk in my way. As a matter of fact their reaction in vs 18 "Followed Him" means walk the same path, it implies a fellowship, a side by side walking with one another. I recall a Clint Eastwood movie, played a secret service agent. Didn't get to know president, would not want to protect. No so with Jesus <sup>lay down</sup>.

C. A Promised Conforming - This is a thrilling proposition. Jesus is saying if you will simply walk with me I will conform you into what I will use you to do. He would eventually give them a tremendous life time task, but he said I will be the one to fit you for that task. Oh how true! You say I can not witness, or teach or sing or lead. Not to worry, just follow him and he will conform...

III. The Straightway of These Disciples  
As a child I attended Straightway Baptist Church, I often wondered at the name, no roads nearby named "Straightway". No people ~~wanted the~~ <sup>desire, we all should</sup> No area of town. But now I understand it was a reflection of A. An immediate following - I imagined how these hearts trembled as throwing net in water. Thinking on claims of Christ, wondering whether

would see him again, then the call! (the offer  
tunity of lifetime!) I have decided to follow Jesus  
in background. How wonderful it is to immediately  
be obedient to God. Paul told King Agrippa in Acts 26:19

How haunting and defeating are the memory  
of the moments of inobedience and rebellion. Of <sup>Holy Gho</sup> quenching the

**B. Instant Forsaking** - At the moment  
they embraced Christ, they released something  
else. vs 18+20. They left the life they knew. Simon  
+ Andrew may have had great plans for growth  
+ prosperity. Future plans we forsaken. James  
and John along w father Zebedee seem as though  
they had already arrived. Servants. Lucrative  
Family Plans were forsaken to follow the Nazarene  
God may not call you to Gamma, Cambodia or Mexico <sup>But follow Christ</sup> costs

**C. O intense Faith** - We have already  
relied that these men were great orators, rabbinic  
scholars, Acts 4:13 "ignorant + unlearned men" What  
business do they have, setting out in mid life  
on a new career. These men had families  
to care for, how will the needs be met?

They will be walking with the living  
God. He has already said the He will  
make them fishers of men. He takes on full responsibility

**IV Closing** - Remember when I thought as a  
child that there just weren't any disciples anymore  
well in a way I was partly right. Sadly the  
disciple that has forsaken all embraces an  
intimate walk w Jesus are few & far between.

Acts 26:19-20 Whereupon, O king Agrippa, I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision: But shewed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance.

Mark 10:29-30 And Jesus answered and said, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake, and the gospel's, But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life.